

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07121 081111Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ICA-11 PA-01 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /055 W
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R 081051Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0195
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 07121

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, CVIS, SOPN, UR, US (MAY, CLIFFORD)
SUBJECT: AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS IN USSR

REF: STATE 86600

1. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THERE IS NO OTHER CASE WHICH
PRECISELY DUPLICATES PROPOSED ARRANGEMENT FOR HEARST
CORRESPONDENT CLIFFORD MAY, ALTHOUGH VIENNA-BASED WRITER
FOR "BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL", THADDEUS KOPINSKI,
MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF SIMILAR STATUS DURING HIS LAST
VISIT TO MOSCOW IN MID-MARCH.

2. HOWEVER, ARRANGEMENT WHICH NATIONAL BROADCASTING
COMPANY (NBC) HAS USED OVER PAST DECADE AND WILL CONTINUE
TO USE UNTIL NBC'S FULL-TIME MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT GENE
PELL TAKES UP RESIDENCE THIS SUMMER MAY BE OF SOME USE IN
PERSUADING SOVIETS THAT AT LEAST A PARTIAL PRECEDENT
EXISTS. NBC HAS COVERED MOSCOW FROM FIRST BERLIN AND
NOW LONDON, WITH NON-RESIDENT BUT ACCREDITED CORRESPONDENT
HOLDING SOVIET MULTIPLE EXIT-ENTRY VISA. DIFFERENCE,
HOWEVER, IS THAT NBC HAS CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN BOTH OFFICE
(MANNED BY SOVIET SECRETARY) AND APARTMENT (UNOCCUPIED
EXCEPT DURING INFREQUENT VISITS BY CORRESPONDENT) IN
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MOSCOW. WE PRESUME HEARST NOT INTERESTED IN ASSUMING THE
EXPENSE THIS SORT OF ARRANGEMENT WOULD ENTAIL.

3. COMBINATION OF CLOSING OF UPI LENINGRAD OFFICE AND NBC
EXPERIENCE WITH MULTIPLE EXIT-ENTRY VISA FOR NON-RESIDENT
NEWSMAN, TAKEN TOGETHER, MAY CONVINCE SOVIETS TO GO ALONG
WITH MAY'S PROPOSED ACCREDITATION. A CASUAL WORD ABOUT

THE UNCERTAIN FUTURE OF THE TASS SAN FRANCISCO OPERATION
AFTER UPI'S LENINGRAD CLOSURE MAY ALSO HELP MAKE UP
SOVIET MINDS. TOON

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NNN

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